



Reverend Robert Haining [SL.SA B22103/5]

Robert
HAINING [1802-1874]

&

Jessy
HAINING [1811-1899]
(née GRANT)

Married on 1 June 1841
at St Cuthbert's Church, Edinburgh

Departed 24 June 1841 from London
Arrived 21 November 1841 at Port Adelaide
on the

Orissa

Children of Robert & Jessy:

Robert (1842-1919) m [1] Alice MARSHALL
[2] Julia FYFFE

Wilhelmina (1844-1925) m [1] John ROE
[2] Rev George YOUNG

A Daughter (1848-1848)

Jessie (1849-1895) m Charles SMITH

George (1854-1928) m Julia MacDONALD

A Founder of Churches

Robert Haining was appointed by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland to work in South Australia. He was ordained and married in 1841 and sailed with his wife on the *Orissa* to the colony in the same year.

Seven days after arrival Robert conducted his first service at Holy Trinity Church. Later services were held in the Friends' Meeting House, North Adelaide and the Congregational Church in Freeman Street (now Gawler Place). The Wesleyan Meeting House in Hindley Street was hired until a Church of Scotland could be built.

On his horse 'Badger', Robert travelled to outlying areas such as Strathalbyn and Morphett Vale and in 1842 he conducted the first religious service at Mt Barker. He also conducted services in the Anglican Church at St Marys and in a wooden church at Port Adelaide where St Paul's Anglican Church stands today. When the first building was erected it was agreed that it would be for both Presbyterians and Anglicans and most members attended both services.

The Church of Scotland Society, formed on St Andrew's Day in 1841, raised money to buy sites and in July 1844 the first St Andrew's Church of Scotland was opened in Grenfell Street. By 1855 it was decided that this was too small and a larger church, also known as St Andrews, was opened in 1859 in Wakefield Street.

Rev Robert Haining was also a member of the Destitute Board, The Aborigines' Friends Society, the Adelaide City Mission and the Board of Public Competitive Examinations.

For many years after his arrival it was necessary for Robert's income to be supplemented by an allowance from the Presbyterian Foreign Mission Fund. When, due to failing health, Robert retired in 1871, he was presented with a testimonial of £500.



Robert and
Jessy retired
to Glenelg.

From information provided by Elizabeth (Libby) Ottaway,
Robert's great great great granddaughter
March 2015

